

# TheVOTER

## Two important LWV-RMA events coming your way

**Everybody counts! Let's count everybody!**

An informational program on

**Census 2020**



**Monday, May 20, 2019 6:30 PM**  
**Fight Village Community Center**  
**186 Ward Street, Rochester**  
*More on page 5*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS\*  
OF ROCHESTER METROPOLITAN AREA

**Thursday, June 6, 2019**  
**4:00 – 6:00 PM**  
**Locust Hill Country Club**  
**2000 Jefferson Road**  
**Henrietta**  
*More on pages 3 – 4*



## Leadership Corner

# 58<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention

*June 7-9, 2019*  
**The Albany Hilton**  
**Albany, New York**

This year's New York State LWV Convention includes a mix of contemporary topics and learning opportunities to improve League operations.

### COME AND SUPPORT THE LWV-RMA AT PRE-CONVENTION ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 7!

Attend the pre-convention workshops on Friday afternoon. Leading off the workshops, at 1:15 P.M., will be the Rochester Metro League. Judy Weinstein reached out to presidents across NYS to express concerns with the LWWNYS policy governing empty-chair candidate forums/debates. Under present policy, at least two candidates for the same office must be present "face to face"; a candidate event cannot be held if this condition is not met. The result is that one candidate can deny his or her opponent the opportunity to speak to the public. We have received negative feedback on the present policy even from candidates themselves. The intent of this workshop is to solicit views on this matter from other local Leagues in New York State and to hear their experiences with the policy. Other Leagues may provide useful tips on how to motivate candidates to participate, or we might suggest that the LWWNYS board reconsider the policy.

Come and support the Rochester League in this effort to encourage informed and active participation in government. The cost to attend Pre-Convention Friday is only \$75. This includes, in addition to the workshop mentioned above, the following:

- "The 2020 Census: Is There a Role for the League?": Jeff H. Behler, Regional Director, US Census Bureau
- "Civil Discourse: How Can We Achieve That Today?": Robert Boatright, PhD, Director of Research, National Institute of Civil Discourse and Professor and Chair, Political Science Department, Clark University
- A welcome reception, dinner and a tour of the NYS Capital
- Workshops covering a selection of topics including: Election Laws, Civics, Fundraising, Food Waste/Food Security, Advocacy Training, and the role of Media in Politics.

This is a jam-packed day of interesting and, perhaps provocative, topics to energize you.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN  
 VOTERS** *fighting*  
 of New York State *for democracy*  
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
**100 YEARS STRONG**

### CONVENTION JUNE 8 AND 9

Beginning on Saturday, a variety of League-led workshops include the following:

- Youth Programs
- Moderating Candidate Forums
- League Management
- Social Media, Websites, and Other Technology
- Women's Suffrage and League History Projects
- Voter Services
- Q&A.

The Plenary session that begins at 1:45 P.M. on Saturday runs all afternoon and continues for two hours on Sunday. Five voting delegates will represent the LWV-RMA: Kim Byers, Deb Leary, Judy Sternberg, Judy Weinstein, and Gail Wilder. Please know, however, that the convention is OPEN TO ALL! If you wish to attend, you may be able to serve as a delegate for another League and thus be able to speak and vote at plenary sessions. While our local League does fund the convention registration fee and double-occupancy room for our voting delegates, we are unable to do the same for others. The cost to attend all sessions, including meals, for June 8 - 9 is \$295, plus hotel accommodations. There are some lower cost options (\$100 Saturday dinner and speaker only, \$40 Saturday lunch and speaker only, and \$50 per day to attend workshops and plenary sessions only). If you are considering attending the convention, go to our website at [lwvrma.org](http://lwvrma.org) for full details on the Convention agenda, speakers, and events.

Consider organizing a carload of friends to drive to Albany for either a day trip or the full convention! Come back to Rochester ready to "fight for democracy" in our local community!

In League,

**Gin Busack:** (585) 467-6131, [ginbusack@aol.com](mailto:ginbusack@aol.com)

**Kim Byers:** (585) 247-4958,  
[lwv.roc.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.roc.volunteer@gmail.com)

**Judy Weinstein:** (585) 721-8515,  
[j.weinstein.roc@gmail.com](mailto:j.weinstein.roc@gmail.com)



**You are cordially Invited to attend the  
Annual Meeting  
of the League of Women Voters Rochester Metropolitan Area**

**Thursday, June 6, 2019**

**4:00 – 6:00 P.M.**

**Locust Hill Country Club  
2000 Jefferson Road, Henrietta**

- **Vote for**
  - New Slate of Candidates to our Board of Directors & Nominating Committee
  - Annual budget for 2019-2020
- **Honor Milestone League Members**
- **Celebrate** Carrie Chapman Catt & Making Democracy Work Awards
- **Acknowledge** Members Who Earned “You Make Us Proud” Awards

Enjoy hors d’oeuvres, coffee, tea and cash bar.

Cost is just \$10 again this year! Celebrate another year of League excellence!

Preregister at <http://www.lwv-rma.org> or 262-3730. We look forward to seeing you!





## Financial Performance and Budget Report

Financial Performance of the Rochester Metro Area League of Women Voters for the 2018-2019 fiscal year tracks favorable to budget with Net Income of \$18,975 as of March 31, 2019. A bequest of \$15,000 significantly increased our cash position and, when coupled with our increased membership, has enabled the League to consider investments to expand our efforts focused on "Get Out the Vote".

Funds in the Grants Management account, which is managed by the LWNYS Education Fund, also received donations of \$700 in the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Donations to the Grants Management Account are tax deductible to the donor but are 'restricted funds' in that they can only be used for educational purposes. These funds supplement our general funds and can be used to pay a portion of our dues to the national and state Leagues.

In the current fiscal year, we have invested in several noteworthy areas. First, we have purchased new signage that is designed to draw people to our voter registration tables. The selfie photo op sign (see picture on page 7) has been very successful in drawing voters and their children to our tables for picture taking. We think it is connecting to current and future voters and plan to have these at various community events. Our second key investment was a laptop computer and Quicken software to be used by the treasurer to automate the preparation of financial statements and to enable easier analysis of our income and expenditures.

The proposed budget for 2019-2020 looks to leverage our increased membership and enthusiasm by expanding our "Get Out the Vote" initiatives with new projects that are currently in the investigation stage. We are considering a postcard campaign and a text message application (for those who agree to receive such messages) to remind newly registered voters when and where to vote. We are partnering with local community organizations in low-turnout districts to encourage voter registration. You will also notice a new message on communications regarding upcoming forums aimed at welcoming the deaf community to our events. With notification from interested attendees, we will include an ASL interpreter at our program forums.

In conclusion, the Board has approved the enclosed budget plan for 2019-2020 as a program expansion budget. For purposes of transparency, potential investments are shown even though many projects are in the investigative stage. Final expenditure approval for the new initiatives will require Board approval and review once the feasibility and cost of the effort is finalized.

You will also notice a new message on communications regarding upcoming forums aimed at welcoming the deaf community to our events. With notification from interested attendees, we will include an ASL interpreter at our program forums.

## Summary of Cash Balances

### LWV-RMA 2019-2020 Slate

#### Co-Presidents

Kim Byers 2019-20  
Judy Sternberg 2019-21

#### Treasurer

Judy Weinstein 2019-21

#### Secretary

Julie Damerell 2019-20

#### Directors:

Ann Carmody 2018-20  
Kris Rogers 2018-20  
Gail Wilder 2018-20  
Myra Pelz 2019-21  
Paula Aguilera 2019-21

#### Nominating Committee

Mary Hussong-Kallen (Chair)  
Jane Beck  
Bev Kent

	Beginning Balance July 1, 2018	Ending Balance March 31, 2019	Change in Cash Position
M&T Checking Account	\$18,240.85	\$22,171.96	\$3,931.11
M&T Savings Account	\$54,464.87	\$69,508.36	\$15,043.49
Grants Management	\$16,504.68	\$13,731.83	(\$2,772.85)
TOTAL	\$89,210.40	\$105,412.15	\$16,201.75

All members attending the Annual Meeting will have an opportunity to vote for the candidates. During the Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured. The bylaws stipulate a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 elected directors and not more than 5 appointed directors.

Year-Over-Year Budget/Actual Comparison				
	2018-2019 Budget	2018-2019 Actuals as of Mar 31, 2019	Proposed 2019-2020 Budget	
<b>INCOME</b>				
Dues	9,000.00	9,465.00	\$9,400.00	
Donations	1,000.00	16,799.70	\$1,000.00	
Election Night Support to BOE	2,000.00	3,975.00	\$2,000.00	
Paid Programs & Events	1,250.00			
Other	500.00	223.49	\$550.00	
Transfer from Grants Management	7,700.00	3,002.85	8,555.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	21,450.00	33,466.04	21,505.00	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
LWVUS PMP	(3,570.00)	(3,536.00)	(4,130.00)	Growth in Membership
LWVNY PMP	(2,230.00)	(2,210.00)	(2,580.00)	
Voter Services:				
Brochures/Educational Materials	(4,000.00)	(713.56)	(4,200.00)	
Get Out the Vote Projects	(600.00)	(1,248.66)	(900.00)	Focus on Voter Turnout Projects
Texting Application			(500.00)	
Vote411			(250.00)	
Other Committee Expense	(500.00)	(181.74)	(200.00)	
Fair Elections Practices Campaign	(500.00)		(500.00)	
The Voter	(2,500.00)	(1,708.30)	(2,450.00)	
Students Inside Albany	(800.00)	(170.00)	(800.00)	ASL Interpreters to expand accessibility.
Program & Candidate Forums	(1,500.00)	(670.05)	(1,800.00)	
Finance & Admin Expense				
Telephone	(850.00)	(721.18)	(900.00)	
Space Rental	(600.00)	(300.00)	(300.00)	
Equipment/Software/Supplies	(250.00)	(469.78)	(150.00)	
Paypal Fees	(150.00)	(131.27)	(150.00)	
Post Office Box	(90.00)	(96.00)	(100.00)	
Internet Hosting	(70.00)		(70.00)	
Office Supplies/Miscellaneous	(240.00)	(149.26)	(150.00)	
General Membership Meeting (Jan)	(500.00)	(509.00)	(500.00)	
Annual Members Meeting (June)	(1,000.00)	60.00	(1,000.00)	
LWV National Convention		(1,736.64)	(3,000.00)	
LWV State Convention	(1,500.00)		0.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	(21,450.00)	(14,491.44)	(24,630.00)	
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSE)</b>	0.00	18,974.60	(3,125.00)	
Drawdown of Cash Reserves			3,125.00	
<b>NET BUDGET</b>			<b>0.00</b>	

**The League of Women Voters – Rochester Metropolitan Area (LWV-RMA), Fight Village, and Faith Community Alliance of Greater Rochester, Inc. present:**

**Everybody counts! Let's count everybody!**

**An informational program on**

**Census 2020**



**MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019**

**6:30 PM REFRESHMENTS AND OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT CENSUS 2020 JOB TABLE**

**7:00 PM MEETING STARTS**

**FIGHT VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER  
186 WARD STREET, ROCHESTER 14605  
ACCESSIBLE PARKING**

**WELCOME:**

**Bishop Willie F. Davis, Jr.,**

Senior Servant and Pastor,  
Cathedral of Hope  
Community Church

**Minister Clifford Florence, Sr.,**

Associate Pastor,  
Central Church of Christ, and  
President, Faith Community  
Alliance of Greater Rochester, Inc.

**PRESENTERS:**

**Susan M. Perry,** US Census Bureau

Census 2020: What will data collected be used for, what it will not be used for, and how it will be collected.

Latest information regarding challenges to inclusion of Citizenship questions on Census. League of Women Voters of the United States has joined list of litigants.

**Brigit Hurley,** The Children's Agenda

Why Census 2020 is so important for families

**QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD:**

Leave your questions in the basket as you enter or write your questions during the program. **Ann Carmody,** Moderator





## Voter Services: Get Out the Vote (GOVT) Let's Get Going!

This year it's all about encouraging participation: helping folks register, then convincing them that their votes count!

**HOW DO WE DO THIS?** Our GOTV group will focus efforts on youth and areas of low voter turnout. **WE NEED YOU!**

### 2019 INITIATIVES:

Target neighborhoods of low voter registration: invite neighborhood groups to work with us, knock on every door, register voters and hear their issues.

Use texting and postcards to promote election dates and to encourage people to use their vote.

Distribute Lawn Signs that invite those who read them to come vote with the sign displays.

Continue the chalking project, spraying our stenciled message to VOTE TUESDAY or VOTE MARTES on the weekend before elections.

Expand our in-hospital patient absentee ballot and day of ballot initiatives with Rochester General and Strong Hospitals.

Conduct new voter orientation sessions at community gathering locations.

Increase our presence and visibility at City of Rochester and RCSD events, partnering with our community partners.

### YOU COULD HELP MAKE THESE INITIATIVES SUCCESSFUL WITH YOUR TIME AND IDEAS!

While "the season" is just beginning, Beth Feldman and our volunteers, Mary Olinger, Mary Garfield, Lois Winterkorn, Judy Sternberg and Annie McQuilkin, have already taken our message to three City high schools – All City High, School of the Arts and East High. Clare Shea and Margaret Supinski have handled two registration events at Nazareth College, while Myra Pelz and Julie Damerell have encouraged RIT undergraduates to volunteer alongside our League.

Our voter registration calendar is beginning to fill in with confirmations already for the PRIDE Fest, the 4th Annual Portland Avenue Business Association Festival and the RCSD "MIND OF THE MOTHER" events. Watch for SignUpGenius alerts as the calendar fills.

There is a need for all of us to contribute our talents. All you need to do is raise your hand.

**Gin Busack** [ginbusack@aol.com](mailto:ginbusack@aol.com)



*Shown are some of the many registration activities sponsored by the LWV-RMA recently.*



## Naturalization Ceremonies

The League participates in at least two Naturalization ceremonies per month each year. All are welcome to attend the public ceremonies. Check the League website, [lwv-rma.org](http://lwv-rma.org) for the schedule of Naturalizations. If you would like to attend, please contact Sheila Abeling at 585-223-6819 or [sheiler162007@gmail.com](mailto:sheiler162007@gmail.com) and she will arrange the visit for you.

On March 14, Sheila Abeling welcomed candidates for citizenship at the Monroe County Office Building at the 10:00 A.M. ceremony officiated by the Hon. Christopher Ciaccio.

Lois Winterkorn and Kathy Farrar participated in the oath ceremonies at the George Eastman Museum on March 26. There were 102 candidates who were naturalized at 11:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. during ceremonies led by the Hon. Charles Siragusa and the Hon. Marian Payson. A very busy day at the Museum!

Congratulations to all the new American citizens!



*Naturalization ceremonies led by the Honorable Charles Siragusa (above) and the Honorable Christopher Ciaccio (below).*





## 2019 Rochester Equal Pay Day Rally/Press Conference

The LWV-RMA was one of several cosponsors of the 2019 Rochester Equal Pay Day Rally and Press Conference which publicized pay disparity for women. The Equal Pay Coalition brought together community leaders at the Workers United union hall to highlight the wage gap between genders and among various ethnic groups.

The event is held annually on April 2, Women's Equal Pay Day, which was chosen because the average woman must work one year, three months and two days to equal the same amount of money earned by a man in just 12 months.

To learn more, visit <http://payequitycoalition.com/>.



TOP: LWV-RMA member Mary Myers (with her husband Tom); LWV-RMA Members Ida Holloran and Gin Busack; Participant being interviewed by WXXI correspondent.

CENTER: Speakers at the rally - Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres, Commissioner of the Department of Recreation and Youth Services, City of Rochester; Molly Clifford, Rochester Councilmember; Elaine Spaull, Rochester Councilmember; Gaynelle Wethers, President, Rochester Chapter, American Association of University Women; Jackie Ortiz, City of Rochester Councilmember and Co-founder, La Cumbre - Latinos United for Progress; Jerome Underwood, President & CEO, Action for a Better Community Inc.; Sylvia Mendez, Assistant Director, Financial Aid, Monroe Community College; Angelica Perez-Delgado, President & CEO, Ibero-American Action League; and Barb Moore, President, Rochester National Organization for Women.

BOTTOM: Participants holding signs highlighting wage disparities.

Source for montage photos: Annette Dragon Photography LaCumbre (Latinos United for Progress)

## In Memory of Betty Rockford

I joined the League late in the 60s and, shortly thereafter, joined the League committee studying Fiscal Independence for the Five Big NYS School Districts (Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Yonkers, and NYC) which are dependent for funding on their respective cities and unable to levy taxes themselves. The chairperson of this committee was Betty Rockford. A capable leader and a determined advocate of fiscal independence, she knew the facts and figures relative to the financing of the five districts. One reason for Betty's interest in funding for urban schools was that her children attended Rochester City schools.

Betty received her college degree in her fifties. She was a long-time social worker, employed by Monroe County for 17 years handling foster care and adoptions. In addition, she was a co-founder of CURE Childhood Cancer Association as well as an activist for peace and social justice.

Betty died on April 6, 2019, at age 96.

**Barbara Kay**

### Inside this issue:

Forum: Census 2020 .....	1
Annual Meeting.....	1
Leadership Corner 58th Biennial Convention .....	2
Annual Meeting Invitation.....	3
Financial Performance & Budget Report .....	4
Summary of Cash Balances .....	4
LWV-RMA 2019-2020 Slate .....	4
Year-Over-Year Budge/Actual Comparison .....	5
Census 2020.....	6
Voter Services: Get Out the Vote .....	7
Naturalization Ceremonies.....	8
2019 Rochester Equal Pay Day Rally/Press Conference.....	9
In Memory of Betty Rockford.....	9
Calendar.....	10
First Fridays .....	10
Leadership .....	11



# Coming Events!



## May

- 2 Naturalization (1:00 P.M., RIT)
- 3 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 9 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office)
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting (Noon, Asbury First UMC, 1010 East Avenue)
- 20 Census 2020 (6:30 P.M., FIGHT Village Community Center, 186 Ward Street)

## June

- 6 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 6 LWV-RMA ANNUAL MEETING (4:00 P.M., Locust Hill Country Club, 2000 Jefferson Road)
- 7 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 14 Naturalization (9:00 A.M., Florence Brasser School, 1000 Chili Center Coldwater Road)

- 14 Naturalization (1:00 P.M., Federal Building)
- 25 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Rochester City Hall)

## July

- 4 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Genesee Country Village & Museum, Mumford)
- 5 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 24 Naturalization (1:00 P.M., Rochester City Hall)
- 25 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)

## August

- 2 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 8 Naturalization (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 26 Naturalization (1:00 P.M., Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca Falls)

*Be sure to check your email and our website for other events as they are scheduled!*

## Don't Miss First Fridays with LWV-RMA

Join League colleagues for lunch or a mid-day coffee break each First Friday of the month, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. at I-Square, 400 Bakers Park, at Titus Avenue, Irondequoit, NY 14617.

No need to RSVP. Pencil us in on your calendar and join when you can!

There's a place at the table for you!

May 3  
June 7  
July 5  
August 2



Board of Directors meets monthly on the second Monday of each month from noon - 2:00 P.M. at Asbury First UMC. Board meetings are open to all members.

Government Committee meets monthly. For details, call Elaine Schmidt at 530-7414.

Naturalization ceremonies are usually held on second Thursday of each month. Check League website for updated info each month.

Forums are open to the public. Calendar information is subject to change.

For more complete information, consult our website at [www.LWV-RMA.org](http://www.LWV-RMA.org), call 262-3730 or e-mail us at [info@lwv-rma.org](mailto:info@lwv-rma.org)



PO Box 10573  
Rochester, NY 14610  
585-262-3730  
[www.LWV-RMA.org](http://www.LWV-RMA.org)

A Monthly Publication of the  
League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Leadership Team

Gin Busack (2018-2019)  
Kim Byers (2018-2019)  
Judy Weinstein (2018-2019)

**Treasurer** Elaine Schmidt (2017-2019)

**Recording Secretary** Judy Sternberg (2018-2020)

**Corresponding Secretary** Marion O'Connor (2017-2019)

**Director** Ann Carmody (2018-2020)

**Director** Mary Hussong-Kallen (2018-2019)

**Director** Barbara Kay (2017-2019)

**Director** Kris Rogers (2018-2020)

**Director** Gail Wilder (2018-2020)

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Looking for info on a League committee or activity? Look no further!

**Advocacy/Government**, Ann Carmody

[Advocacy@lwv-rma.org](mailto:Advocacy@lwv-rma.org)  
[government@lwv-rma.org](mailto:government@lwv-rma.org)

**Communication/PR**, Mary Hussong-Kallen

[communications@lwv-rma.org](mailto:communications@lwv-rma.org)

**Election Services/Naturalization**, Sheila Abeling

[Sheiler162007@gmail.com](mailto:Sheiler162007@gmail.com)

**Fair Election Practices Campaign**, Kris Rogers

[fepc@lwv-rma.org](mailto:fepc@lwv-rma.org)

**Membership**, Mary Garfield

[membership@lwv-rma.org](mailto:membership@lwv-rma.org)

**Programs**, Ann Carmody

[ann.carmody2012@gmail.com](mailto:ann.carmody2012@gmail.com)

**VOTE411**, Judy Weinstein

[vote411@lwv-rma.org](mailto:vote411@lwv-rma.org)

**Voter Services**, Gin Busack

[voterservices@lwv-rma.org](mailto:voterservices@lwv-rma.org)

*The Voter is a  
monthly publication  
of the LWV-RMA*

*Editor,  
Judy Wadsworth*

*Layout/Design,  
Chris Burleigh*

## JUNE-JULY VOTER DEADLINE IS JUNE 15!

### League of Women Voters-Rochester Metro Area Mission Statement

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

Voter education is one of the League's most important functions, and the League encourages all citizens to register and to cast an informed vote.

The League does not support political parties or candidates, but does take stands on important issues after careful study and research.

Membership in the League is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of age.

Those under 16 can be associate members.

### Goals of the League of Women Voters:

- To encourage informed citizen participation in government and politics
- To influence public policy through education and advocacy

## Join the League Today!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and your check payable to  
League of Women Voters/RMA to:

LWV-RMA

PO Box 10573

Rochester, NY 14610

or join us online at: [www.lwv-rma.org/join.php](http://www.lwv-rma.org/join.php)

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual/Associate . . . . .	\$75
Household . . . . .	\$105
Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass . . . . .	\$150
Carrie Chapman Catt . . . . .	\$200
Student . . . . .	FREE
Low income, call office at 262-3730 . . . . .	Sliding Scale
or send an email to: <a href="mailto:info@lwv-rma.org">info@lwv-rma.org</a>	